(a) whether there has been a shortfall in the per capita availability of foodgrains in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) steps proposed to be taken by the Government to meet the shortfall in the per capita availability of foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The average per capita availability of foodgrains in the country has generally been rising, by and large, over the years.

The per capita availability of foodgrains for the last four years i.e. 1993 to 1996 is given below :

Year	Per Capita availability of foodgrains (kgs per annum)
1993	169.4
1994	172.0
1995	185.3
1996	181.3

(b) The shortfall in per capita availability of foodgrains in the country in 1996 is attributed to a decline in production of foodgrains by 6.46 million tonnes and rise in population.

(c) The Government is taking several steps to increase production of foodgrains so as to improve their per capita availability at reasonable prices. In this context, the Government is implementing the following crop specific schemes :—

(i) Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Rice Based Cropping System Areas.

(ii) Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Wheat Based Cropping System Areas.

(iii) Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Coarse Cereals Based Cropping System Areas.

(iv) National Pulses Development Project.

[English]

Districts of Religious Minorities Concentration

*151. SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS :
SHRI VIJAY GOEL :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received the list of the districts having the concentration of religious minorities;

(b) if so, the percentage of the population of various religious minorities in each of those districts, State-wise;

(c) the percentage of the total population of each religious minority of the total population of the country; and

(d) the facilities and concessions being made available in those districts ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) The Government has identified 41 minority concentration Districts. Recently the Ministry has received a revised list from the National Commission for Minorities.

(b) Statement-I is attached.

(c) The percentage of total population of each religious minority to total population in the country as per 1991 Census is as under :—

Muslims	12.12%
Christians	2.34%
Sikhs	1.94%
Buddhists	0.76%
Zoroastrians	0.01%

(d) Statement-II is attached.

Statement-I

District	Muslims	%Age	Christian	%Age	Sikhs	%Age	Buddhists	%Age	Zoroas	%Age	Total Minority Population	Total Population of Distt	%-age of Minority Population to the Distt.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
UTTAR PRADESH													
1. Rampur	556532	47.22	7366	0.62	41589	3.53	120	0.01	1	0.00	607807	1173621	51.57
2. Bijnor	765063	39.45	1818	0.09	22494	1.16	751	0.04	Nil		790525	1939261	40.76
3. Moradabad	1198807	38.06	6737	0.21	7939	0.25	1324	0.04	Nil		1215106	3149406	38.58
4. Saharanpur	843399	31.55	3698	0.14	21188	0.79	623	0.02	Nil		880731	2673561	32.94
5. Muzaffarnagar	653584	28.74	1770	0.08	8989	0.40	565	0.02	Nil		665175	2274487	29.25

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
6.	Meerut	700144	25.30	9938	0.36	6597	0.24	4241	0.15	Nil		721052	2767246	26.06
7.	Baharaich	554404	25.02	1767	0.08	3441	0.16	84	0.00	Nil		560013	2216245	25.27
8.	Gonda	637222	22.48	360	0.01	959	0.03	Nil	0.00	Nil		638620	2834562	22.53
9.	Ghaziabad	390124	21.17	1606	0.09	8202	0.45	1253	0.07	Nil		402676	1843130	21.85
10.	Pilibhit	212938	21.12	1255	0.12	39323	3.90	1	0.00	Nil		254358	1008312	25.23
11.	Deoria	724329	20.72	1354	0.04	132	0.00	102	0.00	Nil		725926	3496564	20.76
12.	Barabanki	407404	20.45	572	0.03	234	0.01	74	0.00	Nil		408300	1992074	20.50
13.	Basti	729866	20.40	1052	0.03	325	0.01	457	0.01	Nil		731700	3578069	20.45
WEST BENGAL														
14.	Murshidabad	2169121	58.66	3760	0.10	399	0.01	81	0.00	Nil		2173408	3697552	58.78
15.	Malda	919918	45.27	4020	0.20	127	0.01	108	0.01	Nil		924283	2031871	45.49
16.	West Dinajpur	860797	35.79	19481	0.81	153	0.01	279	0.01	Nil		881927	2404947	36.67
17.	Birbhum	469212	22.39	5010	0.24	258	0.01	123	0.01	Nil		656420	2095829	31.32
18.	Nadia	713776	24.08	20504	0.69	204	0.01	230	0.01	Nil		734721	2964253	24.79
19.	24-Parganas (N)	2563751	23.87	55381	0.52	6913	0.06	4526	0.04	5	0.00	2630708	10739439	24.50
20.	24-Parganas (S)													
21.	Cooch Bihar	368176	20.78	1333	0.08	14	0.00	273	0.02	Nil		379799	1771643	21.44
22.	Howrah	598448	20.52	4640	0.16	2478	0.08	645	0.02	9	0.00	606248	2916861	20.78
KERALA														
23.	Malappuram	1573988	65.51	57217	2.38	2	0.00	Nil	0.00	Nil		1631207	2402701	67.89
24.	Kozhikode	762207	33.95	107711	4.80	30	0.00	6	0.00	7	0.00	869954	2245265	38.75
25.	Cannanore	720192	25.69	267710	9.55	110	0.00	1	0.00	4	0.00	988013	2803467	35.24
26.	Palghat	472787	23.13	76690	3.75	7	0.00	7	0.00	Nil		549491	2044399	26.88
27.	Wayanad	136091	24.56	135504	24.46	64	0.01	3	0.00	Nil		271602	554026	49.02
BIHAR														
28.	Purnea	1495557	41.59	3408	0.09	645	0.02	57	0.00	Nil		1499434	3595707	41.70
29.	Katihar	527379	36.92	2166	0.15	1116	0.08	186	0.01	Nil		531024	1428622	37.17
30.	Darbhanga	432751	21.55	764	0.04	403	0.02	8	0.00	Nil		433930	2008193	21.61
KARNATAKA														
31.	Bidar	179295	17.99	29250	2.94	428	0.04	20804	2.09	Nil		229822	996591	23.06
32.	Gulbarga	345638	16.61	14302	0.69	203	0.01	531	0.03	Nil		360987	2080643	17.35
33.	Bijapur	305159	12.71	2704	0.11	127	0.01	20	0.00	9	0.00	309105	2401782	12.87
MAHARASHTRA														
34	Greater Bombay	1219930	14.80	394687	4.79	51808	0.63	467716	5.67	50053	0.61	2188158	8243405	26.54
35.	Aurangabad	388646	15.97	23972	0.99	2640	0.11	192094	7.89	86	0.00	607850	2433420	24.98
ANDHRA PRADESH														
36.	Hyderabad	811787	35.91	62689	2.77	7848	0.35	1421	0.06	391	0.02	884156	2260702	39.11
37.	Kurnool	407981	16.95	69567	2.89	55	0.00	Nil	0.00	Nil		477616	2407299	19.84
HARYANA														
38.	Gurgaon	261645	30.80	658	0.08	4032	0.47	94	0.01	Nil		266449	849598	31.36

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
MADHYA PRADESH													
39. Bhopal	209389	23.40	10929	1.22	6765	0.76	8133	0.91	10721		236485	894739	26.43
RAJASTHAN													
40. Jaisalmer	56378	23.19	124	0.05	383	0 16	Nil	0.00	Nil		169094	243082	69.56
GUJARAT													
41. Kachch	197164	18.77	1277	0.12	929	0.09		0.00	11	0.00	199453	1050161	18.99

Statement-II

The Government has launched a Multi-Sectoral Development Plan during 1995-96 in the 41 Minority Concentration Districts which is being monitored by the Ministry of Welfare. During the VIIIth Five Year Plan an amount of Rs. 1.00 Crore was allocated for the Scheme, out of which an amount of Rs. 56.40 Lakhs has so far been released.

Besides the above, the Government, through the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education) have introduced some programs for the educational development of the Minorities :

(i) Area intensive programme for educationally backward minorities : The scheme was introduced in 1993-94 with the objective to provide basic educational and infrastructural facilities in areas of concentration of educationally backward minorities who do not have adequate provision for elementary education. Out of the VIIIth Plan Allocation of Rs. 16.27 Crore, an amount of Rs. 8.97 Crore has been spent under the Scheme.

(ii) Modernization of Madrassa and Maktab : The Scheme is meant to provide opportunities to the students of the *Madrassa and Maktabs* to acquire education comparable to that of the National Education System by providing financial assistance with the objective of introducing additional subjects like Science, Mathematics, English etc. An amount of Rs. 1.72 Crores was incurred on the schemes against the VIIIth Plan allocation of Rs. 1.00 Crore.

(iii) Scheme of Community Polytechnics : The scheme was started in the year 1978-79 and it envisaged the Community Polytechnics to act as focal points for Science and Technology applications in Rural Areas and generate self and wage employment opportunities through non-formal training in over 100 identified technical and vocational trades.

Procurement of Wheat

*152. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India (FCI) did not pick up wheat when the same was in plenty in Punjab markets, not because it was short of funds but it was in league with the private dealers;

(b) whether Government have ordered an inquiry into this lapse of FCI;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) No, Sir. Wheat is procured for Central Pool by the FCI and State agencies under minimum support price scheme on a voluntary basis. The procurement prices are fixed by the Government to ensure that farmers do not resort to distress sale. The farmers are free to sell their produce to others at the prices advantageous to them.

No such complaint from Government of Punjab has been received in this regard.

(b) to (d) In view of the above the questions do not arise.

[Translation]

Wheat Allocation to Flour Mills

*153. SHRI DHIRENDRA AGARWAL :
SHRI VINAY KATIYAR :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the officers of the Food Corporation of India had allotted/supplied wheat to the flour mills by misusing their authority;

(b) if so, the details of such cases detected during the last one year, State-wise;

(c) whether the prices of wheat in the open market in the country have increased as a result thereof;

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government in each case; and

(e) the efforts made by the Government to check the recurrence of such incidents in future ?